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DOCKET NO.: 8603-0190.20

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Trost and Hachiya

EXAMINER: unassigned

SERIAL NO.: unassigned

ART UNIT: unassigned

FILED: herewith

FOR: CATALYTIC COMPOSITIONS AND
METHODS FOR ASYMMETRIC ALLYLIC
ALKYLATION

Preliminary Amendment

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above application, filed herewith, please amend the application as follows.

In the Specification:

On page 1, at line 7, change "is" to --are--, change "its" to --their--, and after "1997,", insert --and U.S. Application No. 09/213,395, filed December 15, 1998,--.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-16 and 24-52, amend claim 17, and add claims 55-58, as follows:

17. (Amended) A catalytic organometallic composition, wherein the composition is the product of a process which comprises

contacting, in a suitable solvent, a chiral ligand L¹ comprising:

(i) a chiral component derived from a chiral diamine, diol, or amino alcohol, said component having first and second chiral centers, each substituted with a group X selected from -O- or -NR-, where R is hydrogen or lower alkyl, and, linked to each said group X,

(ii) a binding group Cy_N comprising a heterocyclic group having a ring nitrogen atom effective to